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Rome January 15.

ON the 5th of this Month an extraordinary Courier brought Diſpatches from the Senate of Venice to their Ambaſſadour here, upon which he had an Audience of the Pope the next Day, and another on the 10th; when he communicated to him the laſt Advices that came from the Levant, relating to the Declaration of War made by the Turks againſt the Republick. The Ambaſſadour added, that according to the beſt Intelligence the Deſign of the Turks is againſt the Morea; he therefore deſired of the Pope all the Aſſiſtance which the Republick might hope for from his Piety and Zeal, for the Defence of Chriſtendom, now threatned by the moſt formidable Preparations which the Infidels have made theſe many Years. The Pope communicated to the Ambaſſadour the Advices which he himſelf had received on the ſame Subject, and bid him diſpatch a Courier, to aſſure the Republick that he would give them all poſſible Aſſiſtance, and accordingly would take the moſt convenient Meaſures for reinforcing the Venetians with Troops and Gallies, and for helping them to ſupport the Expence of this War. The 9th in the Evening M. Amelot arrived here from the Court of France, and took up his Lodgings in the Palace of Cardinal de la Tremoille: The next Day Cardinal Gualtieri ſent him a Preſent of Refreſhments of all Sorts; Cardinal Otthoboni and Don Aleſſandro Albani did the like; and the 12th he had his firſt Audience of the Pope. The 12th a Decree of the Pope's was affixed in the uſual Places, aboliſhing all the Acts and Ordinances in Eccleſiaſtical Affairs iſſued of late by the principal Tribunal of the Kingdom of Sicily, as being contrary to the Immunities of the Church. 'Tis adviſed from Naples that Commerce between that Country and Sicily is carried on quietly, tho' there be no Proclamation made yet on either Part for an open Trade.

Venice, Jan. 19. Sig. Franceſco Grimani having refuſed the Employment of General of the Iſlands, to which he was elected, the Senate aſſembled the 12th Inſtant to proceed to a new Election, which fell upon Sig. Andrea Piſani: At the ſame time Sig. Almoro Moroſini was choſen Proveditore-General of the Morea. Both theſe Gentlemen have begun to provide their Equipages, and are preparing for their ſpeedy Departure. The 13 ſeveral Perſons being put in Nomination for the Office of Captain General by Sea, the Chevalier Delfino, who was already Proveditore-General by Sea, was by the uſual method of Balloting elected by a great Majority, and a Veſſel was immediately diſpatched to him with the Commiſſion for that high Employment. Laſt Week we had a very violent Storm, the Wind being at North, with abundance of Snow. The Shipping in Port and in the Lagunes ſuffered by this Storm, which laſted ſome Days, and put us into Apprehenſion for a good number of Tranſports that ſailed lately, laden with Ammunition, Proviſion and Troops, for the Morea, under Convoy of the Neptune Man of War commanded by Sig. Diedo. But we learn ſince, that they are got ſafe to Iſtria, whence they are to proceed on their Voyage to the Levant. The Senate have reſolved to add to their Fleet ſix new Men of War of the Line, which are building with all poſſible Expedition in our Arſenal, as are alſo divers other Veſſels, and ſome Bomb Galliots. Letters from Breſcia give an Account, that the Veteran Regiments which had begun to march in order to be imbarked at the Lido, have been obliged to ſtop on the way, becauſe the deep Snows have made it very difficult to paſs along the Roads. Ammunition, Bullets, and Arms, have been drawn out of the great Store-houſe at Breſcia, and others on the Terra-firma, to be ſhipped on the next Fleet of Tranſports. The tempeſtuous Weather has hindred the arrival of ſeveral Merchant Ships and others which were expected from the Levant and from Dalmatia: Only one is arrived from Conſtantinople, with Letters of the 9th of December, which adviſe, that the Grand Signior had ordered his Equipages to be got ready by the end of that Month, becauſe he deſigned to go to Adrianople in January, and draw together a numerous Army in that part of the Country.

Madrid Jan. 28. The 11th of this Month four Deputies of the Academy which the King has eſtabliſhed for improving the Spaniſh Language, were admitted to kiſs the Queen's Hand, and made a Speech wherein they complimented her on her happy Arrival in Spain. The 19th the Princeſs Piombino ſet out from hence to return to Rome by the Way of Catalonia, having been preſented by the King with a Jewel worth near 3000 Piſtoles, and with 2000 Piſtoles in Mony for the Expence of her Journey. The ſame Day the Counteſs d' Altamira took Poſſeſſion of the Office of Camarera Mayor to the Queen, being accompanied to the Court by the principal Nobility in their Coaches. The King, the Queen, and the Prince, frequently take the Diverſion of hunting; and returning from the Field the 22d Inſtant, their Majeſties lodged the firſt time in the Palace of Buen-retiro; having left the Duke de Medina-Celi's Houſe, in which the King had his Reſidence from the time of the Death of the late Queen: Since their Removal, it has been